

## Commercial Advertiser

WALTER G. SMITH, EDITOR.

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## PUBLIC ECONOMY.

The Governor gives sound advice when he urges the Legislature not to be too free with the loan fund. That there is a temptation to draw upon this fund, like that of a young person to get rid of his surplus pocket-money, admits of no manner of doubt; but if Hawaii is going to enjoy sound finances it will have to husband its money and try to live within its means. Because we have discovered that we have a credit is no reason why we should go ahead and exhaust it. Money borrowed must be repaid some day and should only be spent for things of the most public utility.

In this connection there are a number of questionable projects broached which would deplete the loan fund without making adequate returns to the taxpayers. We do not, for one thing, need a new public building, especially at a time when the Territorial departments are likely to be shorn of some of their personnel and much of their power by the institutions formed by the County Act. For all practical purposes the judiciary building is good enough. The structure is a well-put-up one, only needing such alterations as will make the floors stronger. So instead of expending a large sum for a new structure why not expend a small one in making suitable the public building we already have?

Another wasteful project is the building of a \$50,000 armory for the Honolulu companies of the National Guard, to say nothing of the armories called for elsewhere. Fifty thousand dollars are a goodly sum of money. That amount could be made extremely useful in the building up of the Territory. Think of the roads it would construct or the streets it would repair. That money would survey and open up public land upon which hundreds of thrifty people could be homesteaded, thus adding to the taxable values needed to pay interest on the Territorial debt and form a sinking fund. Fifty thousand dollars would build a lot of schoolhouses, increase the supply of impounded water so as to protect the community from drouths or keep the Promotion committee in literature for years. Half of it, carefully used, would expel Honolulu's mosquitoes and one-fifth of it would materially aid the sanitation of the city.

Yet in place of using the money for some such purposes it is seriously proposed to invest it in a militia club-house or "armory," as such clubhouses are called. The idea is made the more obnoxious by the fact that the drilled, which answers all militia purposes and serves them now, will probably be deeded back to the Territory in two or three years. Considering all this and the uselessness of the militia except as a political machine, the armory proposal becomes a signal example of what the Governor is warning the Legislature against.

## WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY.

The celebration of Washington's birthday used to bring Honolulu out to hear music and oratory. In the days before annexation, patriotism, which is always feverish among American colonies abroad, found a vent in every national fête. Then the 4th of July and the 22nd of February were great days of function. The United States minister called a public meeting of his countrymen, committees were appointed, a drilled band engaged and, when the 22nd came, the Stars and Stripes were flung to the breeze from an hundred staffs. Let us hope that the old flag will not be strange to its earlier abiding places today. Though annexation has come, Washington is still worth while; and nothing could do more to promote Americanism among our novitiate citizens than a study of his life and works. It is a pity from this point of view that the literary adjuncts of the day, once so conspicuous here, have been discarded. In the cool weather of February a fine speaker could draw to the Opera House an audience which would hardly be tempted to go there on a sultry July evening. Considering how little of the religion of patriotism is taught here now it would be refreshing, every Washington's birthday, to have an American jubilee in-doors with music and good talk. Often, no doubt, a noted speaker could be had from the coast for the expenses of the trip.

If the Russian conditions of peace are correctly reported, things begin to look like a complete Muscovite back-down. Japan could hardly ask much more than Russia seems willing to concede.

Gen. MacArthur is a welcome visitor to Honolulu. His stay is short but on his return, which is to be by this route, he will probably make a tour of inspection.

## A NEW SOCIAL ERA.

The reception to be given at the residence of Governor and Mrs. Carter on Thursday evening may be, in some respect, perhaps, creative of an epoch, socially speaking. In almost every other capital in the world, there is as an accompaniment of the session of the legislative body of the state or nation, a certain social life, political in some of its aspects, perhaps, but assuredly characteristic of the community.

This was true in Honolulu, markedly, in the old days, and the political social life that came of the court made this island city noted the world around. Of course conditions have changed, and the social life here has changed with them. There has been, in fact, since annexation no political social life that could be said to be peculiar to Honolulu and Hawaii. In Washington, of course, as the center of the nation, there is a distinctly political social phase, just as there is in Paris and in London and Berlin and Vienna. Even St. Petersburg has this, although there is no Russian legislative body.

In the states, the social life of the state capitals cuts little figure, although each state capital has a social life. The mainland is so big, and the real social centers are so easily accessible, one from the other, that it has been almost impossible to create distinctively state centers for social life, although they used to exist before the country became so gridironed with railways. This was particularly true of the southern capitals before the war.

Honolulu, separated by the width of the ocean from the balance of the country, is thrown necessarily more upon its own resources for social diversion, and here the conditions that called local political centers into being before the war can alone be reproduced now.

Governor and Mrs. Carter, in sending out invitations for their reception, have included all the members of the legislature, as well as of the consular corps and have likewise extended the list to take in the more prominent local society people. If this reception is productive of others, given by members of the government, by members of either house who may be prepared to receive, by leaders of the consular corps and lastly by the more prominent society people of Honolulu, it will have started the ball rolling, and a new social era will have dawned. The meeting of legislatures of the future may then come to mean more than an assembling of law-makers. Law-makers may well give some time to play, and tactful women can find many ways to aid in the work of government if opportunity is given them to meet the men who are powerful in the Territory's councils.

There is no real reason, in fact, why Honolulu may not be once more made a gay social capital, the center of a society that will carry its fame around the world, as the old society did.

## THE ROOSEVELT DOCTRINE.

President Roosevelt, in explanation of what he has added to the Monroe Doctrine, made these sensible remarks not long ago to a Chilean editor:

"It is regrettable that all the South American republics do not have, like Chile, a suitable form of government, which might give guarantees and be able to inspire the respect of the whole world. Chile is a country which has known how to defend itself when attacked, and has never failed to meet its obligations. This we know, and we are, in consequence, drawn toward her. If all the South American countries would follow in the footsteps of Chile, we should have had no reason to regret the events which on several occasions have forced us to intervene actively in the policy of that part of our continent."

By this and other late official utterances it appears that the Latin-American States, to be sure of safety from "Yankee imperialism," must conduct themselves in such a way as not to arouse the just resentment of European powers. The United States cannot go to war in the name of the Monroe Doctrine, to keep European States from protecting their subjects from political or financial injustice at the hands of Latin-American republics or from collecting indemnity for injuries already done. In the past the tacit obligation to protect an irresponsible American debtor or mischief maker from the usual disciplinary course by the injured power, involving land indemnity in extreme cases, was the weak point of the Monroe Doctrine. But now all this has been done away with by the terms of the supplementary Roosevelt doctrine, so that, when a Latin-American republic tries to repudiate its debts or set aside any of its treaty obligations, the President of the United States may step in, as the continental policeman, to compel order, and, in his other capacity as continental receiver, to manage the property pending a final settlement with all concerned.

The new doctrine is designed to prevent armed tests of the Monroe doctrine and to inculcate higher standards of government in Central and South America. It seems to be necessary and comprehensive statesmanship.

When the Korea finds a mudbank in

the fairway of Honolulu harbor it is time for Congress to hustle along with that \$400,000 appropriation bill.

## ELECTION CONTEST

(Continued from Page 2)

there will be no mistake in the registration and no false voting. Some men refuse, and we do not compel them. This man comes in and puts his number down, 28305.

Mr. Miller. That is the registration list?

Mr. Atkinson. No, sir; that is when he comes in.

Mr. Miller. The day of the election? Mr. Atkinson. Yes, sir; the day of the election. For instance, if I am an inspector of elections, he puts his name down "C. B. McLaughlin, No. 28305." That is the portion I hand to him (indicating).

The Chairman. What is that? Mr. Atkinson. That is the ballot. He comes into the booth and the booth is specially prepared in the manner that you are all familiar with. He comes in, and here is the instruction on this printed instruction card:

Before leaving the compartment the voter is to re-fold his ballot just as he received it from the chairman, and thus folded deliver it to the inspector of election in charge of the ballot box and announce his name. After his name is checked on the register the inspector shall remove the perforated slip so that the ballot shall have no mark of identification, and then deposit the ballot in the box.

You see that slip is removed. There is where the trouble arose, over a little mark. That ballot was put in that way.

The Chairman. You tear off that top slip there?

Mr. Atkinson. That remains on the binding of the stub.

The Chairman. On the stub?

Mr. Atkinson. Yes, sir.

The Chairman. What is the object of having this little slip with the number on it that you tear off, as you say? Mr. Atkinson. It is stated in this instruction on this card. It says that the voter shall deliver his ballot to the inspector of election in charge of the ballot box and announce his name. After his name is checked on the register, the inspector shall remove the perforated slip, so that the ballot shall have no mark of identification, and then deposit the ballot in the box.

The Chairman. What does he do with that piece?

Mr. Atkinson. That is thrown away and destroyed.

The Chairman. What is the object of having it on there?

Mr. Atkinson. I will show you. It was done on the previous election, but that other part was then down the side (indicating on ballot). It was to prevent fraud. Previously, when there was no mark or number, you know, anywhere, the inspector was not sure of getting back the same ballot that he gave. I have a ballot at home that four years ago was had—a man went in and got his first ballot—

The Chairman. Got what?

Mr. Atkinson. A first ballot, and put in the ballot box a piece of paper (indicating). Then he got another, and he would go out and people who were buying votes—

Mr. Miller. It was just like the endless chain.

Mr. Atkinson (continuing). They would say, "Here, if you will bring me back a blank ballot I will give you \$3." That was the price they paid. It was to prevent that fraud that this was done. We were sure, under this plan, of getting back ballot 28305. The whole idea was to prevent fraud.

The Chairman. Is there anything in the law authorizing the putting of that on the ballot?

Mr. Atkinson. The law says, here:

Sec. 55. A ballot shall contain the name or names of the person or persons to be voted for, the office or offices for, and the district in which the election is being held, and the term or terms of the respective offices being voted for.

The name or names of the candidate or candidates shall be printed with the Hawaiian or English equivalent, if such there be, if the candidate shall so request the secretary of the Territory in writing at the time his nomination is filed with the secretary of the Territory.

A ballot shall bear no word, motto, device, sign, or symbol other than allowed herein, and shall be so printed that the type shall not show a trace on the back.

(To be Continued.)

## GOLF.

A large crowd of golfers and merry-makers journeyed to Haleiwa Sunday to enjoy the outing and participate in the challenge cup golf tourney.

It was a perfect day for golf and everyone had an equal chance to bring home the prize.

At the finish of the play it was found that Oscar White of the Manoa club and Dr. Wood of Waiwala were tie for first honors, each having a net score of 91. White had a 2 handicap, and Wood 7. Harold Giffard played the lowest score making the 18 holes in 93. Jess Woods with a three handicap took third prize.

White and Wood will play off their tie on Sunday next. Wood has won the cup twice and if he is victorious this time the trophy remains in his possession for good.

The Haleiwa course was in fine shape and the game was much enjoyed by all who participated.

Manager Bidgood proved himself the friend of the golfers by giving them a dinner which will keep them talking for some time to come.

A match race was arranged between the Haleiwa Limited and the railroad auto, with a 45-minute handicap to the latter, finish to be Honolulu. The auto was left by the wayside and the chances are that it is still on the way.

According to the London Globe, the present year will prove to have been the most unfortunate on record for mountaineering fatalities. In 1898 there were 37 fatal ascents, 47 in 1899, 48 in 1900, 63 in 1901, 119 in 1902 and 148 in 1903. For the present year the total is 152 for the Italo-Swiss side and 150 for the Austrian and French Alps.

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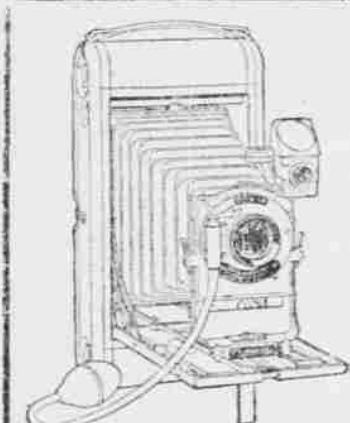
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